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RUEHAN/AMEMBASSY ANTANANARIVO PRIORITY 0012
RUEHAE/AMEMBASSY ASMARA PRIORITY 0040
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING PRIORITY 0403
RUEHDR/AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY 0082
RUEHDJ/AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI PRIORITY 0072
RUEHDO/AMEMBASSY DOHA PRIORITY 0186
RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY 0873
RUEHMK/AMEMBASSY MANAMA PRIORITY 0130
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY 6566
RUEHMS/AMEMBASSY MUSCAT PRIORITY 0057
RUEHNR/AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY 0048
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 0189
RUEHYN/AMEMBASSY SANAA PRIORITY 0067
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY 0705
RUEHGP/AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE PRIORITY 0496
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY 1027
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 1095
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RHFMISS/HQ USAFRICOM STUTTGART GE PRIORITY
RHEHAAA/WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUDKSR/EUCOM PLANS AND ANALYSIS STUTTGART GE PRIORITY
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC PRIORITY
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEHNO/USDELMC BRUSSELS BE PRIORITY
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 USNATO 000525

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TAGS: [PREL](#) [NATO](#) [PGOV](#) [MOPS](#) [MARR](#) [MCAP](#) [EWWT](#) [PBTS](#) [PHSA](#)
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SUBJECT: COUNTER-PIRACY WORKING GROUP CHAIR CALLS FOR NATO
LEADERSHIP ON CAPACITY-BUILDING

Classified By: Political Advisor Kelly Degnan. Reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)
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1. (C) SUMMARY AND COMMENT: On November 9, the Chairman of Working Group One (WG1) of the Contact Group on Piracy off the Coast of Somalia, Chris Holtby (UK), briefed the NATO Policy Coordination Group (PCG) on regional capacity-building and urged NATO to play a role in training. NATO Deputy Assistant Secretary General for Operations, Ambassador Rossin, said NATO should make concrete offers by the WG1 meeting in mid-January. USNATO believes that we will be best served by defining what contribution the U.S. is willing to make--a U.S. Coast Guard role would be welcome--and then building support for a NATO effort in line with Amb. Rossin's timing. Furthermore, we should consider whether there are additional NATO partnership tools which could be opened. END SUMMARY.

2. (C) WG1 Chairman Holtby stressed to the NATO Policy Coordination Group (PCG) the need for a coordinated, collective effort on regional capacity building. Holtby called on NATO to show leadership by playing a role in training, including embarkation of ship-riders from nations like Kenya. He said it would be very helpful if NATO representatives from both the International Staff and Allies at the WG1 meeting on November 16-17 could be positive and supportive, if possible to include offering participation in specific projects.

¶3. (C) NATO Deputy Assistant Secretary General for Operations Ambassador Larry Rossin endorsed Holtby's comments. He said that as NATO's representative to the upcoming WG1 meeting, he intended to be positive and supportive and reminded Allies that their Heads of State had endorsed this mission at the Strasbourg-Kehl Summit. Amb. Rossin said his aim was for NATO to be able to make concrete offers by the WG1 meeting in mid-January.

¶4. (C) Commander Craig Bennett from Joint Command Lisbon briefed that areas of significant interest for NATO included the Kenya Center for Excellence, Maritime Rescue Coordination Centers, the Djibouti Training Center, and AFRICOM's African Partnership Station (APS). In response to a German query, he highlighted the possibility for Allied coast guards to play a role in capacity building. He stressed maritime professionalization, situational awareness, interdiction, and infrastructure development as potential areas for a NATO contribution. (Note: Donna Hopkins from State PM Bureau's Office of Plans, Policy, and Analysis also gave a well received briefing on the Maritime Security Sector Reform (MSSR) Assessment Matrix. End Note.)

¶5. (C) Comment: USNATO recommends using the upcoming visit to Brussels of the U.S. Coast Guard Commandant to share ideas and look for ways to build support for a NATO maritime capacity building and training role. End Comment.

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